

CHATS ABOUT BOOKS.

One of the "happy thoughts" of J. R. Osgood & Co., at the opening of last season was "The Little Classics," a series which has become immensely popular with the trade and the public. The cream of English and American literature has been skimmed to fill these dainty little volumes—the latest of which is now in press. It is entitled "Romance," and will contain "The Story of Iris," from Dr. Holmes' "Professor at the Breakfast Table"; "The Rostericran," by Miss Mulock; "The South Breaker," by Harriet Press, Scott Spofford; "The Snowstorm," by John Wilson, and "The King of the Peak," by Allan Cunningham. Professor Greg's work, "Mocks Ahead; or, the Warnings of Cassandra," which has created so great an excitement in England, is announced for the next volume, and will be followed by an article of whose appearance by the same firm we have no doubt. The series of "The Little Classics" is one of the British reviews. They treat upon the commercial, social, industrial and political future of Great Britain, which the author finds decidedly unpromising, his conviction being that she is rapidly nearing the end of her resources, and that the tendency is toward democratic anarchy.

Another important work of this firm (now in press) is the second volume of "Problems of Life and Mind," by G. H. Lewes, the husband of George

things in the book. A man bridle of all temper, coming out of a room where he had just lost a good money at play, saw a person (a perfect stranger to him) tying his shoe at the top of the stairs: "Damn you," said he, "you're always tying your shoe," and kicked him down stairs.

The Doctor—"That is capital; it so perfectly describes the unreasonableness of an angry man. To see a person placidly tying his shoe when he felt so irritated was the last straw.

Miss RACHEL—Jordan's reminiscences are not so anecdotal as Moore's, but they are very entertaining. He tells one good story of the poet Campbell, who passed the night at a country inn somewhere in Scotland. He had been stopped by the weather in the afternoon, had dined, and indulged himself with a toothpick to while away the idle half-hour. Enter chambermaid. "Sir, if ye please, are ye done with the toothpick?" "Why do you ask? I suppose I may kick away as long as

generous and very beautiful. They marry on a few days' notice, before either has had time to know or understand the other. The consequence is easily foreseen. The first time that Ethel learns of her husband's unkindness he tells her she must "cut" her family; that when a man marries a wife he does not marry all her relations, and that when a woman marries above her that she must go over to her husband's family.

Miss RACHEL—That's something new; I thought the husband always went over to the wife's family.

FELICIA—Circumstances alter cases, you know. Ethel, being a high spirited girl, naturally resented such dictation, but her husband has a mother and two maiden sisters to back him, so of course the wife was set upon and silenced. Sir Philip would

Mistress Judith; a Cambridgeshire Story. By
C. C. Fraser-Tytler. New York: Henry Holt & Co.